

Vandling Borough Council Minutes  
August 16, 2021

Council President Fran Pantzar called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed for long time Borough Treasurer Hank Majdic who recently passed away.

Council members present included John Carachilo, Fran Pantzar, John Mayers, and Bill Matos. Also present were Mayor Joseph Brady, Treasurer Jennifer Slick, Attorney Jeff Levine, and Secretary Nancy Perri. Councilman Boyle was absent.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Carachilo, second by Mr. Mayers. All were in favor.

**Correspondence:**

- *Jake Erdman re: Forest City Youth Soccer*
- *PA Department of Labor & Industry (Accessibility Audit Letter)*
- *Lackawanna County Association of Boroughs – September dinner meeting*

The correspondence was approved on a motion by Mr. Carachilo, second by Mr. Matos. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Persons to be heard:** None at this time.

**Treasurer Report**

***Treasurer Report of Financial Status: (final for August)***

	<b>Aug 1, 21</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
COVID Grant	2,144.08
<b>General Fund</b>	
HNB - 0113	282,580.28
HNB - 4601	38,452.91
<b>Total General Fund</b>	321,033.19
<b>Liquid Fuels Fund</b>	
HNB - 4613	32,745.63
<b>Total Liquid Fuels Fund</b>	32,745.63
<b>Refuse Fund</b>	
HNB - 5401	60,997.60
<b>Total Refuse Fund</b>	60,997.60
<b>CD Balance (.25% Interest Renews 7/24/22)</b>	27,861.80
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	444,782.30
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Principal Balance on Loan</b>	103,953.26
<b>(Payment Due 1/15/22)</b>	

Mr. Carachilo noted that he has a call in to Senator Casey's office to request that the remaining COVID grant funds allowed to be added to the American Rescue Act (ARA) grant received. Treasurer Jennifer Slick noted that it would be better to move the ARA grant proceeds received into the COVID account to make it easier to track for audit purposes. A motion was made by Mr. Mayers, second by Mr. Matos to approve the Treasurer's report, Motion carried with all in favor.

**Treasurer Report of Receipts: (final for August)**

Vandling Borough ~ August 2021 Revenue			
Date	Name	Account	Amount
08/01/2021	HNB ~ 4613	341.00 · Interest Earnings	48.24
08/01/2021	HNB ~ 4601	341.00 · Interest Earnings	3.86
08/03/2021	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes	193.23
08/05/2021	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes	501.98
08/11/2021	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes	1,795.72
08/13/2021	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes	860.24
08/17/2021	Tumblin Tots	342.00 · Rent	1,050.00
08/17/2021	Mary Ann Risboskin	305.00 · Occ. Taxes	469.42
08/17/2021	Mary Ann Risboskin	301.00 · Real Estate Taxes	516.33
08/17/2021	Regina Estates	321.00 · Rental Inspections	184.50
08/17/2021	Lackawanna Co. Treasurer	319.00 · Delinquent Taxes	203.61
08/17/2021	Lackawanna Co. Treasurer	364.00 · Garbage Fees	456.85
08/17/2021	Lack. Co. Recorder of Deeds	310.10 · Real Estate Transfers	715.40
08/17/2021	NEP Telephone	342.00 · Rent	500.00
08/18/2021	Hab-Eit	310.20 - Wage Taxes	1,782.05
08/20/2021	Hab-Eit	310.20 - Wage Taxes	2,243.41
08/25/2021	Hab-Eit	310.20 - Wage Taxes	3,005.47
08/31/2021	HNB.4613	341.00 - Interest Earnings	2.70
08/31/2021	HNB 0113	341.00 - Interest Earnings	46.75
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>			<b>\$ 14,579.76</b>

Mr. Matos, second by Mr. Carachilo motioned to approve the revenue report. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Treasurer Report of Expenses: (final for August)**

Vandling Borough ~ August 2021 Bill List			
Date	Name	Account	Amount
08/09/2021	UGI PNG	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	25.89
08/09/2021	Penn dot	438.00 · Repair & Maintenance of Roads	825.29
08/09/2021	PAWC	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	65.81
08/16/2021	County Waste	427.45 · Contract Sanitation Service	6,417.16
08/16/2021	Forest City Borough	410.45 · Police	2,000.00
08/16/2021	4 Seasons Small Engine	409.37 · Bldgs. /Grounds Rep & Main.	177.37
08/16/2021	Herlands & Levine	404.10 · Legal Wages & Salary	257.50
08/16/2021	NEIC	413.45 · Rental Expense	120.00
08/16/2021	PP&L	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	173.60
08/16/2021	NEP Telephone	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	84.06

08/16/2021	John Bonham	430.25 · Road Material	242.25
08/16/2021	PAWC	448.36 · Water Hydrants	331.61
08/16/2021	Browndale Fire Co	411.50 · Fire Co. Contribution	500.00
08/16/2021	Jennifer Slick	402.10 · Treasurer's Commissions	400.00
08/16/2021	Jennifer Slick	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(91.12)
08/16/2021	Nancy Ann Perri	405.10 · Secretary's Wages	400.00
08/16/2021	Nancy Ann Perri	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(97.12)
08/16/2021	Thomas Collins, Sr.	430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages	391.00
08/16/2021	Thomas Collins, Sr.	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(89.06)
08/16/2021	Mary Ann Risboskin	403.10 · Tax Collectors Commissions	49.29
08/16/2021	Mary Ann Risboskin	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(11.19)
08/16/2021	John Lavin	413.2 · Protective Services Supplies	560.00
08/16/2021	John Lavin	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(127.57)
08/16/2021	John Lavin	413.2 · Protective Services Supplies	7.00
08/16/2021	James Van Leuven	430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages	562.50
08/16/2021	James Van Leuven	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(128.16)
08/16/2021	James Van Leuven	409.20 · Bldgs./Grounds Supplies & Exp	61.61
08/16/2021	Nicholas Pecko	430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages	262.50
08/16/2021	Nicholas Pecko	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(59.82)
08/16/2021	LCAB	400.42 - Borough Dues/Subscriptions	75.00
08/17/2021	IRS	6560 · Payroll Expenses	690.46

TOTAL BILLS AUGUST 2021      14,075.86

Mr. Matos questioned the PA Dot bill and it was noted that it was related to inspection fees on a storm drain installation. Mr. Matos made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Carachilo seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Public Address of Council:**

At this time, Mr. Pantzar opened the meeting for Attorney Wally Casper and Tammy Brennan to address Council as Mrs. Brennan had requested to be placed on the agenda prior to the meeting but after the agenda was printed. The Brennan's are under contract to purchase Maple Ridge Estates. Attorney Casper noted that the highway occupancy permit is an outstanding issue that they would like to address at the next Council meeting. They are looking for Borough Council to give them approval to proceed with the project.

Mayor Brady questioned what the timeframe is if everything proceeds according to plan. They replied that they could start as early as November. There was some further discussion on how the sewer lines will run. John Carachilo asked how many lots there will be and they replied that there are approximately 71 lots planned.

As a follow up to the Treasurer's report, Jennifer reported that the CD was renewed at Honesdale National Bank at .25% interest. The Dime Bank did have a rate of .3% but it didn't seem worth the paperwork to move it at this time.

**Mayor Report:**

Mayor Brady reported that he and John Carachilo met with Representative Kosierowski and her Chief-of Staff, Drew Popish who is guiding them in identifying potential grants.

**Solicitor Report:** Attorney Levine had nothing to report at this time.

### **Committee Reports:**

John Mayers reported that the State approved putting signs for brake retarders in the Borough. He noted that he wrote the ordinance for signs in one direction. Four signs will need to be purchased. Bill Matos stated that one should be added where the ordinance ends. Mr. Carachilo asked if the State is supplying the signs. They are not. Mr. Mayers was also questioned if he spoke with Chief Rowan about this ordinance as they would be responsible to enforce it. Fran Pantzar suggested some research be done on the cost of signs and some consideration given of the enforcement issue. Mr. Matos commented that we have done this in the past with a five ton weight limit on Peterlin Street which is not enforced so in his opinion this is a waste of money. The issue is tabled until next month.

Mr. Mayers introduced some changes for the animal control ordinance. Mr. Pantzar stated that he would like to have the full council present to give consideration of this amendment and discuss it further next month.

Mr. Mayers distributed a list of grants that other communities have received as well as projects that need to be addressed in the Borough. He stated that Peterlin between Oak and Ash needs to be fixed to address flooding and it should be a priority. Mr. Mayers suggested using the \$26K saved from the Peterlin project to address issues at the Borough building.

Mr. Carachilo thanked Mr. Mayers for the suggestions but noted that he didn't include any way to address other water problems. Mr. Mayers stated that there is one storm sewer included at 6<sup>th</sup> & Ash that can be discussed further after Mr. Grizzanti of KBA Engineering addresses Council. Mr. Mayers stated that he would like the first four items on his grant list decided on at this time. Mr. Pantzar requested that we hold off for further discussion among all Council members.

Mayor Brady stated that we have to make sure things are done correctly with any commercial development.

In regard to the Peterlin project, Tony Grizzanti suggested that we follow up with the County Community Development office to determine the results of the survey they did to see if they can address the rest of the project.

As a follow up to the discussion about flooding in the development, it was reported that there are no legal easements in the rear of any of the properties for utilities. There are no easements for the Borough. It was also noted that Fell Township will have to be part of the project. A meeting with Fell Township supervisors will have to be the first step in considering our options. One resident commented that a property owner made an unauthorized diversion of water. Daryl Seaman asked if there are retention ponds in the new development. There are. The Borough's goal is to redirect the water so that it goes into storm system and not homes. The problem will be corrected but it has to be done properly and will start with a meeting with Fell Township. Lou Norella still does some work for them, so he can be contacted as well. Tony Grizzanti will contact him to see if we can schedule a meeting to review the issue. Gina Grizzanti, a resident of the Borough, also commented that she has a pond in her backyard that has been an ongoing problem.

### **Unfinished Business:**

In regard to the bid process, Mr. Pantzar would like to table the matter until next month.

### **New Business:**

Bill Matos reported that the sewer line on Ash Boulevard that has had to be repaired every three months. It is a terra cotta pipe that has an elevation from 3'1" to 2'11" and a curb stop eroded away. We need three bids to replace ten feet of pipe with a six inch pipe. Mr. Mayers and Mr. Matos will work it out and Mr. Matos will show Mr. Mayers where the area is so it can be acted upon at the next meeting.

**Public Comment:**

Daryl Seaman addressed Council and asked if there are any paving projects planned for the development. It was noted that only some cost estimates have been obtained. Mr. Seaman commented that streets in the development (5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>) had a full mill out but nothing was done in the rest of the Borough. He noted that Oak Sand Hillside Streets need repair. Mr. Seaman further complained that tax payers were made to wait to address Council while those with a financial interest in the development were able to address Council earlier and leave the meeting. He also commented that when the engineer walked the Borough to examine flooding issues, he didn't walk the rest of the Borough. He further commented on a pothole near his property that he fills himself, how crosswalks on Main Street are deteriorated and he is concerned about pushing more water into the underground mines.

Mike Martines agreed that the crosswalks should be painted and that there should be some "yield to pedestrians" signs in the Borough.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM on a motion by Mr. Carachilo, second by Mr. Mayers.

Borough Secretary Nancy Perri prepared the minutes.

Nancy Perri  
Signature

September 19, 2021  
Date